Singh Haryana Agricultural University, Hisar *w.e.f.* 1st August, 2005.

- 328 farmers, NGO & State Government Officers were trained on cultivation of *Jatropha* and Karanj and National Research Centre for Agroforestry, Jnansi.
- Three biofuel based agroforestry models developed in the farmer's field and 113 accessions of *Jatropha* collected from Northern India.

(v) A Centra! Sector Scheme "Integrated Development of Tree Borne Oilseeds" is being implemented in the country through National Oil Seeds and Vegetable Oils Development Board (NOVOD) to accelerate the production of Tree Borne Oilseeds including jatropha during 10th Plan peirod. The scheme envisages development of elite planting material and model plantation, establishment of TBOs garden, installation pre-processing and processing facilities etc. The needs based research & development programmes have also been initiated by making networking of research institutions in the country. Besides, model plantation have been organized by using elite planting material in more than 8000 ha. area during 2004-05 in 21 States.

Subsidy to micro irrigation

t1835 SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD:
SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have formulated a proposal to provide subsidy upto 50 per cent to micro*irrigation project;

(b) if so, the outline of the proposal and whether it is a fact that the agricultural land under micro irrigation so far is only 20 lakh hectares;

(c) if not, the facts thereof; and

(d) the potential of expansion of micro irrigation as a result of the above proposal?

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Department of Agriculture & Cooperation, Ministry of Agriculture has formulated a Centrally Sponsored Scheme on Micro irrigation to be implemented during the Tenth Five Year Plan, with the objective of increasing the coverage of area under drip and sprinkler irrigation in the country from the current level of 20 lakh hectare (6 lakh hectare under drip and 14 lakh hectare under sprinkler irrigation). The Scheme envisages financial assistance to the beneficiaries @ 50% of the cost of the system.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) An area of 6.2 lakh hectares is proposed to be brought under micro irrigation during the Tenth Plan period under the scheme.

Subsidy for Micro Irrigation

1836. SHRI C. PERUMAL:
SHRIMATI S.G. INDIRA:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is proposed to provide 50 per cent subsidy for micro irrigation projects such as sprinkler and drip irrigation systems;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Central Government will bear the total expenditure; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) and (b) The Department of Agriculture & Cooperation, Ministry of Agriculture has formulated a Centrally Sponsored Scheme on Micro irrigation to be implemented during the Tenth Five Year Plan with the objective of increasing the coverage of area under drip and sprinkler irrigation in the country for increasing crop productivity with efficient use of available water resources and to develop the skill of farmers and field functionaries through Human Resource Development (HRD). The scheme envisages assistance to farmers @ 50% of cost of the system.

(c) and (d) As per the Scheme, the financial assistance is to be shared jointly between the Centre and State Governments in the ratio of 80:20.